

Message Text

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64

ACTION NEA-10

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ALGIERS 2236

FOR NEA/AFN JAMESON

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BGEN, AG

SUBJECT: TENNECO NEGOTIATIONS WITH SONATRACH

1. SONATRACH LAWYER HAS CONTACTED EMBASSY AND ASKED WHETHER TWO INDIVIDUALS, RADIAWSKY AND AOUL (UNSURE OF SPELLING), APPARENTLY HIRED LOCALLY BY TENNECO INC. TO SERVE AS INTERPRETERS DURING NEGOTIATIONS WITH SONATRACH IN LATE SEPT, ARE KNOWN TO EMBASSY. LAWYER EXPLAINED THAT SONATRACH IS CONCERNED THAT THE TWO MAY IN REALITY BE SERVING TENNECO AS MIDDLEMEN. EMBOFF REPLIED THAT NAMES WERE NOT ON LIST OF INTERPRETERS RECOMMENDED TO AMERICAN BUSINESSMEN BUT THAT SONATRACH SHOULD NOT CONCLUDE FROM THIS THAT INDIVIDUALS WERE SERVING TENNECO IN ANOTHER CAPACITY. EMBOFF ALSO RECOMMENDED THAT IF SONATRACH CONCERNED ABOUT THESE PERSONS THAT THEY QUERY TENNECO DIRECTLY.

2. RECOMMEND YOU CONTACT TENNECO AND ADVISE THEM SENSITIVITY OF SONATRACH OFFICIALS TO SUCH MATTERS. AS GENERAL RULE, ALGERIAN COMPANIES DO NOT LIKE TO HAVE THIRD PARTIES INTERPOSED BETWEEN THEMSELVES AND AMERICAN FIRMS. SUGGEST TENNECO LET SONATRACH DO INTERPRETING. ALTERNATIVELY, WE CAN ARRANGE FOR HIRE OF COMPETENT INTERPRETER LOCALLY. PARKER

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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